

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 5 and ending at line 6 as follows:

The present invention relates to a recording apparatus for recording ~~the~~ image information.

At page 1, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 22 and ending at page 2, line 1 as follows:

Also, with a conventional electronic still camera, it has been proposed that a picked up image is once recorded onto an intermediate recording apparatus (image memory or buffer ~~memroy~~ memory), before it is recorded onto a magnetic disc or semiconductor memory (memory card) which is an ultimate recording medium.

At page 2, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 24 and ending on Page 3, line 10 as follows:

Moreover, there was also disclosed a constitution in Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 1-101079 in which [a] an image stored in the intermediate recording medium can be output to the monitor, and a judgment can be made by ~~seeing~~ observing on the monitor screen whether or not the image is recorded onto an ultimate recording medium. With this constitution, the magnetic disc is started in accordance with an instruction from the user that the image recorded in the intermediate recording medium

is recorded onto the magnetic disc which is an ultimate recording medium. Thereby, the power consumption due to the start and rotation of the magnetic disc can be reduced.

At page 3, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 18 and ending at line 25 as follows:

With the second and third conventional examples, the power consumption at the peak in photographing can be reduced, but not sufficiently. Also, with the third conventional. example, the user's operation is necessary to transfer an image from the intermediate storage medium to the ultimate recording medium, so that the operativity in continuous photographing is lowered.

At page 5, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 20 and ending at line 22 as follows:

Other objects and features of the present invention will be apparent by way of the ~~ensuring~~ following examples and from the description of the drawings.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 11 and ending on line 12 as follows:

Fig. 6 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 4.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 13 and ending at line 14 as follows:

Fig. 7 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 4.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 18 and ending at line 19 as follows:

Fig. 10 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 20 and ending at line 21 as follows:

Fig. 11 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 22 and ending at line 23 as follows:

Fig. 12 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 24 and ending at line 25 as follows:

Fig. 13 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 6, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 26 and ending at line 27 as follows:

Fig. 14 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 1 and ending at line 2 as follows:

Fig. 15 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 3 and ending at line 4 as follows:

Fig. 16 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 9.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 5 and ending at line 6 as follows:

Fig. 17 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in a third example of Fig. 4.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 7 and ending at line 8 as follows:

Fig. 18 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 4.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 9 and ending at line 10 as follows:

Fig. 19 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 4.

At page 7, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 11 and ending at line 12 as follows:

Fig. 20 is a part of a flowchart for the photographing operation in the example of Fig. 4.

At page 8, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 23 and ending on Page 9, line 2 as follows:

7 is a CPU (Central Processing Unit) for controlling the ~~whole of the~~ entire apparatus, having a program memory internally. 8 is a release switch (thereinafter abbreviated as SW). The release switch SW8 turns on a switch (SW) 9 at the first stroke, and also turns on a switch SW10 while holding the switch SW9 on, at the second stroke.

At page 12, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 23 and ending on page 13, line 7 as follows:

In the photometry mode, for example, the stop 12 is fully opened, the image pickup element 16 is exposed for a predetermined time, and then a photoelectrically converted signal is read out. The A/D converter 18 converts the output of the image pickup element 16 into the digital form, and the DSP18 calculates the luminance of an object with the weighting and integration. In the colorimetry mode, the color temperature of the light illuminating the object is estimated from the luminance of the object calculated in the photometry mode. Based on an estimated color temperature, the ~~white~~ white balance is adjusted.

At page 13, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 17 and ending on line 27 as follows:

If the switch 40 is turned on at the second stroke of the shutter release (S16), the stop 12 is controlled (S19) by means of the stop driving circuit 14 in accordance with the luminance of an object calculated in the photometry mode (S13), the power is fed to the buffer memory 22 (S20), and the image pickup element 16 is exposed for a predetermined time after removing unnecessary charges (S21). With the exposure of the image pickup element 16, a charge signal is read out, converted into the digital signal with the A/D converter 18, and applied to the DSP20 (S22).

At page 15, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 24 and ending on page 16, line 9 as follows:

The operation after turning on the switch 40 can be changed as shown in the flowchart of Fig. 5. Referring now to Fig. 8, if the switch 40 is turned on (S16), the stop is controlled (S30) via the stop driving circuit 14 in accordance with the luminance of an object calculated in the photometry mode (S13), and after removing unnecessary charges from the image pickup element 16, the exposure is started (S31). The power is fed to the buffer memory 22, taking into consideration the set up of the power supply voltage to the buffer memory 22, so that the buffer memory 22 may be placed in a normal operating state at the completion of the exposure (S32).

At page 19, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 13 and ending on line 19 as follows:

Referring now to the flowcharts as shown in Fig. 10 and the ~~followings~~ following, the operation of the example as shown in Fig. 9 will be described below. Since the routine of closing the power supply switch 34, and causing the system control circuit 50 to initialize the system and permit the external interruption is the same as in Fig. 5, the drawings are omitted.

At page 19, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 20 and ending on page 20, line 5 as follows:

If an external interruption occurs upon turning on the switch 38, the system control circuit 50 starts the program as shown in Fig. 10 and ~~followings~~ the following. That is, first, the external interruption is prohibited (S50), and the switch 38 is checked (S51). If the switch 38 is off (S51), the flow proceeds to Fig. 12 as thereafter described, where the external interruption is permitted (S90), so that the operation is placed in the sleep mode. If the switch 38 is on (S51), the power supply control circuit 52 feeds the power to the image pickup element 16, the A/D converter 18, the DSP42 and the synchronizing signal generating circuit 48 (S52).

At page 20, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 12 and ending on line 23 as follows:

After processing of stored data in the buffer memories 44[[,]] and 46, the system control circuit 50 operates the image pickup element 16, the A/D converter 18, the DSP42 and the synchronizing signal generating circuit 48 in the photometry mode (S69), and then in the colorimetry mode (S70). As in Fig. 1, the DSP42 calculates the luminance of an object with the integration and an appropriate weighting in the photometry mode, and estimates the color temperature of the light illuminating the object from the luminance of the object calculated in the photometry mode. Based on the estimated color temperature, the white balance is adjusted.

At page 21, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 1 and ending at line 14 as follows:

If the switch 40 is not turned on and the switch 38 is turned off (S71), all indications are turned off (S72), and the power supply control circuit 52 stops feeding the power to the image pickup element 16, the A/D converter 18, the DSP42 and the synchronizing signal generating circuit 48 (S73). [[And]] And, as thereafter described in detail in conjunction with the flow of Fig. 9, the transfer of data stored in the buffer memories 44[[[,]] and 46 to the memory device 24 is confirmed (S74 to S79, S80 to S89), then the feed to the DSP42, the buffer memories 44[[[,]] and 46, the interface 26 and the memory device 24 is stopped (S79), and the external interruption is permitted (S90), so that the operation is placed in the sleep mode.

At page 21, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 15 and ending at line 23 as follows:

If the switch 40 is turned on at a second stroke of the shutter release (S91), the working conditions of the buffer memories 44[[[,]] and 46 are checked (S92, S93), in which if both are working, a notice indication for disapproving to photograph is displayed (S94). Then the operation returns to step S52, where if at least one of the buffer memories 44[[[,]] and 46 is available (S92, S93), the photographing is performed.

At page 21, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 23 and ending on page 22, line 7 as follows:

That is, the flow proceeds to Fig. 10 in accordance with the luminance of the object calculated in the photometry mode (S13), where the stop 12 is controlled via the

stop driving circuit 14 (S95), and the image pickup element 16 is exposed to the light for a predetermined period after removing unnecessary charges (S96). Then a determination is made whether or not the data in the buffer memory 44 has been transferred to the memory device 24 (S97). If the transfer has been completed, the buffer memory can be used, while if the transfer has not been completed, the buffer memory can be used.

At page 22, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 8 and ending at line 19 as follows:

Here, assume that both the buffer memories 44[[,]] and 46 are available. The power is fed to the buffer memory 44 (S98), a charge signal with the exposure of the image pickup element 16 is read out and applied via the A/D converter 18 and the DSP42 to the buffer memory 44, thereby being written into the buffer memory 44 (S99). The DSP42 performs the gamma and knee corrections, adjusts the white balance in accordance with the color temperature in the colorimetry mode, and compresses the data with a predetermined compression method, if the compression is required.

At page 23, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 3 and ending at line 11 as follows:

If all image data of one screen with the image pickup element 16 has been written into the buffer memory 44 (S105), the feed to the image pickup element 16 and the A/D converter 18 is stopped (S106). As the writing speed into the buffer memories 44[[,]] and 46 is faster than into the memory device 24, the transfer from the buffer memory 44 to

the memory device 24 is never completed before the completion of the writing into the buffer memory 44.

At page 23, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 12 and ending on page 24, line 6 as follows:

Next, the flow proceeds to step S107, where a single photographing mode (S) or a continuous photographing mode (C) is determined (S107). In the continuous photographing mode, the operation returns to the photometry and colorimetry routine. On the other hand, in the single photographing mode, the data in the buffer memories [44,] 44 and 46 are continuously transferred to the memory device 24, while the switch 40 is being on (S112). That is, if the transfer from the buffer memory 46 to the memory device 24 has been completed (S113), and the power is being fed to the buffer memory 46 (S114), the feed to the buffer memory 46 is stopped (S115), and the transfer from the buffer memory 46 to the memory device 24 is started (S116). If the transfer from the buffer memory 46 to the memory device 24 is not completed (S113), or the feed to the buffer memory 46 is stopped (S114), a determination is made whether or not the transfer from the buffer memory 44 to the memory device 24 has been completed (S117), in which if it has been completed, the feed to the buffer memory 44, the DSP42 and the synchronizing signal generating circuit 48 is stopped (S118).

At page 40, please amend the paragraph commencing at line 13 and ending on page 41, line 2 as follows:

In the event that the transfer of data from the buffer memory 22 to the last empty area of the memory device 24 is started, and the switch 40 is held in the on state until the transfer is completed (S259, S261), determinations are repeatedly made to determine whether or not the memory device 24 is mounted and has any empty area (S255, S257). If the empty area in the memory device 24 is filled upon completion of the transfer (S257), an instruction of exchanging the memory device 24 is displayed (S258). A determination is made whether or not the buffer memory 22 has any empty area, in which as the transfer to the memory device 24 has been completed, some empty area naturally exists (S260), and the operation waits for the switch 40 to be turned off (S261). That is, an indication of exchanging the memory device 24 is continuously displayed (S258).